



Department of Justice

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JACKSONVILLE MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO ACCESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ON THE INTERNET

Jacksonville, Florida - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that Quentin Glenn Hodge (age 28, of Jacksonville) pleaded guilty yesterday to knowingly accessing child pornography on the internet. Hodge faces a maximum penalty of ten years in federal prison. He is currently in custody pending sentencing.

According to court documents, in March 2009, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) detectives visited Hodge's residence in response to a complaint regarding possible child exploitation and child pornography. Hodge was present and agreed to speak with the detectives. While at the residence, the detectives obtained Hodge's three computers.

Subsequent forensic analysis of Hodge's computers revealed approximately 37 images of child pornography, as well as numerous website banners for child-oriented sites. Several of the images of child pornography accessed by Hodge portrayed minors engaged in sadistic conduct.

Hodge was interviewed and admitted, among other things, that he had been "chatting" online with underage girls periodically, that he had visited a teen-oriented website, and that he had exchanged text messages with an underage girl. He said that he pretended to be a 14 or a 15-year-old child - either a boy or girl - online. Hodge also admitted that he had been accessing child pornography websites since July 2007. He

stated that he looked for images of girls from "9 on up."

This case was investigated by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney D. Rodney Brown.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, and as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

_____ The investigation that led to this case was part of Operation Predator, a nationwide ICE initiative to identify, investigate and arrest those who prey on children, including human traffickers, international sex tourists, Internet pornographers, and foreign-national predators whose crimes make them deportable. Launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 12,800 individuals through Operation Predator. ICE encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-347-2423. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.